## Today's News - Thursday, November 20, 2008

- · AlA bad news/good news: billings index hits all-time low; but green index shows growing use of green design.
- · SOM and RPI collaborate on the Center for Architecture Science and Ecology.
- · Hume on the "gaggle of globe-trotting architects" hired to design Toronto subway stations; and a bit more about the ones he doesn't talk about.
- University at Buffalo unveils a major component of UB 2020 plans to reconfigure its campuses.
- · A Hartford elementary school is first in city to go for LEED Gold.
- · Fentress unveils big plans for LAX.
- Miami's Vizcaya gets \$50 million to restore the landmark's luster.
- · Farrell adds a third design guru hat to his rack.
- · Saarinen's young turks, now stars in their own right, recall what lessons they brought to their own careers (great pix!).
- · A Tel Aviv architect has a full plate (some not without controversy).
- Q&A with Majora Carter on what asset-based development means for urban environments.
- · Wainwright tools around with Bauman, the "happy architect": she's "on a mission to make cities more loveable, and says "fiddlesticks to fear of the recession."
- · Kansas architecture students haul their oh-so-green prefab arts center across the state to a tornado-ravaged Greensburg.
- · Vancouver architecture students find no takers for their ingenious (and affordable) houses for homeless.
- · Students (and a conference) bring agriculture and architecture together.
- 2008 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement impress (lots of pix; too bad no mention of planning/design teams).

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U.S. Demand for Architects Falls; Billings Index Dips to Record Low: ...registered 36.2 in October, down from 41.4 the month before and the lowest reading since the survey began in 1995...- Bloomberg News

U.S. Architects Report Increased Adoption of Green Building: Autodesk/AIA Green Index Survey Shows Growing Use of Green Roofs, Renewable Energy Sources and Design Software to Improve Building Performance- American Institute of Architects (AIA)

Designing Green Buildings for the Real World: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) has joined with the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) to establish a collaborative practice known as the Center for Architecture Science and Ecology, or CASE...teams will work together on developing construction methods and materials that can be put quickly to use.- New York Times

Subway station architects intend to cheer you up: Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) has hired a gaggle of globe-trotting architects to design six new stations..."Design matters. You need to provide more than a concrete box." By Christopher Hume -- Will Alsop; Norman Foster; Arthur Erickson-Toronto Star

Toronto picks top UK firms: Alsop, Foster, Grimshaw and Aedas to design new subway stations - BD/Building Design (UK)

University at Buffalo Unveils Draft of Plan to Redesign and Reconfigure its Campuses: ...a major component of UB 2020...focuses on making each of UB's three campuses beautiful, accessible and environmentally sustainable. -- Beyer Blinder Belle; DEGW; Foit-Albert Associates; Andropogon Associates; VFA; Buckhurst Fish and Jacquemart [links to images]- University at Buffalo News

Magnet School Goes For Gold: Hartford elementary school first in city to go for top green rating -- BL Companies [images]-Hartford Business Journal

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa unveils modernization plan for LAX: ...could cost \$5 billion to \$6 billion...Los Angeles International Airport has not been significantly remodeled since 1984. -- Fentress Architects [image]- Los Angeles Times

Vizcaya to undergo a \$50 million restoration: ...has begun to show its age, but a planned renovation should restore the landmark's luster. -- Paul Chalfin/F. Burrall Hoffman/Diego Suarez (1919) [images]- Miami Herald

Johnson appoints Terry Farrell as suburb design guru: ...adds new London role to his Edinburgh and Thames Gateway gigs-The Architects' Journal (UK)

Team Eero: Inspired by Saarinen's drive to "do more," the young architects in his office reshaped postwar America. Today their approach to problem-solving offers important lessons. -- Kevin Roche; Cesar Pelli; Gunnar Birkerts; Balthazar Korab; Robert Venturi; Richard Knight; Niels Diffrient [images]- Metropolis Magazine

Extreme Makeover: Two of the notable challenges that Asaf Lerman has faced so far, in addition to the City Hall project, are the renovation of the Yad Eliahu stadium (Nokia Arena) and the University of Haifa - two milestones of Israeli architecture...[he] is out to shift architectural discourse from pure design to an organizing force in the society, and as such is sharply critical of some of his colleagues. -- Menachem Cohen; Oscar Niemeyer; Shlomo Gilad; James Carpenter; Efrat-Kowalsky Architects- Ha'aretz (Israel)

linterview with Majora Carter, Environmentalist, and a MacArthur "Genius" grant winner: her asset-based development approach, and what this means for urban environments. -- Sustainable South Bronx; Signe Nielsen/Mathews + Nielsen; Kathleen Bakewell/Howe & Howerton- American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)

The happy architect: Irena Bauman is on a mission to make cities more loveable. Martin Wainwright hears why she is challenging the profession to stop, look around and stand up to developers...Fiddlesticks to fear of the recession, she says...it will help her dream of a United Front of British Architects, prepared to tell second-rate, finance-driven schemes: "Sorry, we're not working for you. Get lost." -- Bauman Lyons [slide show, video]- Guardian (UK)

Whirlwind Tour: Kansas architecture students haul a prefab arts center across the state to a tornado-ravaged town, Greensburg...piecing together the 5.4.7 Arts Center, the first public building to be completed after the catastrophe and the first LEED Platinum building in the state. -- Dan Rockhill; Studio 804 [images]- Metropolis Magazine

No takers for 64 foot houses for homeless: It was designed as a very small solution to the very big problem of homelessness in Metro Vancouver, but it may never see the light of day..."Homes for Less," the 64-square-foot [\$1,500] housing project on Granville Island. -- Emily Carr University [images]- CTV (Canada)

An Organic Farm Brings Agriculture and Architecture Together: What role are universities and colleges playing in the sustainable-food movement? ...at the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education's 2008

conferencepresenters held sessions on issues related to campus food and agriculture. [images, links]- The Chronicle of Higher Education
2008 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement [images, links]- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Zaha Hadid Architects: Neil Barrett Store, Tokyo Under construction: Herzog & de Meuron: 56 Leonard Street, New York, NY

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